

REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. Bazirk Headquarters of Greater Berlin.

The population of both West and East Berlin was generally disappointed at the result of the Big Four conference. In spite of directives issued to West Berlin Kreis headquarters, very little had been done to inform the people about the Geneva conference.

2. Basilik Headquarters Dresden.

It has been noted that our present agencies are very inefficient in showing West German and other foreign workers' delegations the achievements of our country. These delegations, the members of which very often speak with reactionary workers in nationalized enterprises, obtain a completely distorted picture of the situation in the GDR. Most people believe that the Geneva conference was a failure. It has been very difficult to counter this opinion for lack of effective arguments issued by the Propaganda Department of the Central Committee.

- 3.
- Benish Headquarters Effort.

Party organs in the different Kreise have completely failed in attempts to make farmers participate in competitions for the increase of agricultural production. The greatest obstacle in the way of better results for the KDP recruitment campaign still proved pacifist tendencies prevailing among the East German youths. Another difficult point is the establishment of SED party organizations in rural communities, because only few reliable and trained SED members are available in the country. People in the entire Soviet Union severely criticize the attitude shown by the Soviet delegation at the recent Geneva conference. The Soviet demand of the establishment of a system of collective security as a prerequisite for the reunification of Germany is mostly attacked. The cooperation between the party and the National Front did not function satisfactorily.

4. Bezirk Headquarters Frankfurt.

Propaganda work in the country has ceased completely because of harvesting activities. Most of the party organs consider Sundays to be the only day

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when propaganda could be conducted. No proper information on the results of the Geneva conference has been given.

5. Bezirk Headquarters Gera.

The youths in the Bezirk show almost no interest in the Warsaw World Youth Festival. About 80 percent of the Grundeinheiten (basic units) of the FDJ are completely inactive at present. Participation in the training of the GDT is on the decrease. Attendance is very irregular. Major elements of the population believe the Geneva conference indicates that a peaceful reunification of Germany is no longer possible. Also this year, harvesting operations proceeded most unsatisfactorily on account of inefficient work done by the machine-tractor stations. Only about 50 percent of the combines of machine-tractor stations available in the Bezirk were used to capacity.

6. Bezirk Headquarters Halle.

Harvesting operations again met with many difficulties. At the beginning of harvesting operations, about 58 percent of the combines manufactured in the GDR and which had arrived a few weeks ago had to be deadlined because of mechanical defects. In the second half of July, there was a critical shortage of potatoes in the entire Bezirk. The situation could not be remedied. Many difficulties were also encountered in the sowing of intermediate crops because of a shortage of seeds. In this field, the situation could also not be remedied, although the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry was contacted.

7. Bezirk Headquarters Chemnitz (Karl Marx Stadt).

The majority of workers opposed the introduction of modern Soviet production methods (so-called "Neuerer" methods). Even proven SED members opposed these methods which have not sufficiently been propagated by FDGB organs. Checks made with 650 party members who were appointed political advisors for the FDJ basic units have proved that more than 400 have not yet taken up any connection with the FDJ groups assigned to them. Kreis headquarters have shown the greatest carelessness in the selection of the propagandists for the Parteilehrjahr (Party training program drawn up for one year). Mostly old or sick party members who will hardly be in a position to do the work assigned to them regularly have been selected and delegated to training courses at party schools. Kreis headquarters proved unable to make the work of party organizations in the country effective.

8. Bezirk Headquarters Leipzig.

Activities in almost all FDJ groups, the secretaries of which joined the KVP, have practically come to a stand-still. Some of these FDJ groups are showing signs of disintegration. The KVP recruitment campaign has depleted the cadre of progressive elements which were suited for work in youths organizations. Older party members generally proved unable to work successfully in FDJ groups.

9. Bezirk Headquarters Magdeburg.

The recruiting of party candidates is meeting with increasing difficulties, especially among young people. Of 1,589 party candidates who were recruited in the second quarter of 1955, only 209 were young people. Only 21 young

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people were recruited as party candidates in the entire Bezirk in July. Kreis headquarters still neglect party work in the country and lose any initiative in view of the opposition against all party activities on the side of the rural population.

10. Bezirk Headquarters Potsdam.

Only 21 percent of party members and candidates accomplished the party missions assigned to them. It appears inadvisable, in view of this situation, to punish any individual case of non-compliance with party orders.

Of the FDJ delegates of local parliaments, only about 20 percent attend meetings regularly. More than half of them have not attended one meeting of local parliaments since the spring of this year. This situation may be explained by ideological difficulties resulting for FDJ members in connection with the propaganda for a national army.

About half of the SED organs and the agencies of the National Front have independently taken up propaganda work for the last Geneva conference. Generally, the results of this conference are viewed favorably by workers. It is generally regretted, however, that no agreement on the German question was reached. All German activities are paralyzed by pessimism prevailing in the matter of German reunification. Many party members interpret the attitude shown by the Soviet delegation as indicating that the Soviets do not believe in the possibility of German reunification.

The fact that the most active FDJ members volunteered for the KVP has had a most detrimental effect on FDJ activities in factories.

11. Bezirk Headquarters Rostock.

Both the management and the shop trade union management of nationalized industrial enterprises have opposed the continuation of the campaign of transferring industrial workers to the country as agricultural workers. The transfer of these workers has had a detrimental effect in all fields of industrial production.

More than 50 percent of the Soviet combine available to the machine-tractor stations have not been employed for harvesting operations because the chiefs of machine-tractor stations and the farmers did not have any confidence in this machinery. Many SED members erroneously interpreted the result of the Geneva conference as indicating that class struggle had become obsolete during the period of peaceful coexistence.

12. Bezirk Headquarters Stralsund.

The number of subscribers to the SED paper "Neues Deutschland" decreased by 12 percent after the Geneva conference despite of all efforts to the contrary. It has been found out that only 50 percent of party functionaries and 21 percent of the party membership have subscribed to this newspaper.

Comment. The present reports indicate that the East German people including SED members and low-level functionaries, are filled with resignation. It is believed that this resignation will increase still more after the completion of the recent Moscow talks. It is believed that too reduced hope in a reunification of Germany will increase the stream of refugees fleeing from the GDR to West Germany. Other reports also indicate that leading SED circles are well aware of this situation.

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